

Docket Number: 042962-0357688

Client Reference: 05PC01001P-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of YOSHIHIRO KAWANO, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: 10/594,311

Examiner: UNASSIGNED

Filed: September 27, 2006

Confirmation No.:

Examination Apparatus, Fluoroscopy Apparatus, Examination Method, and Experimental Method

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Conimissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the cited U.S. patent publications are attached; however, one copy of each foreign reference is attached unless otherwise indicated herein. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto, and are relied upon for a statement of relevance for those references. Please Note that a copy of JP 10-509817 currently is not available. Accordingly, the PCT family member is being supplied in lieu thereof.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: December 27, 2006

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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| | | | U.S. PATENT | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (Fknown)} | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | 1 | ^{US-} 2004/217259 al | 11/04/2004 | YONEYAMA et al. | |
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Transation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Art Unit Examiner Name (Use as many sheets as necessary) UNASSIGNED Attorney Docket Number 042962-0357688

| Examiner | Cite | Document Number | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where | |
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